

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A process for preparation of a color stable organic compound/water mixture [product] from [a finished] an organic compound selected from the group consisting of C₁ to C₆ carboxylic acids, ketones having boiling points from 154°C to 170°C, and esters having boiling points from about 168°C to about 250°C, the process comprising combining the [finished] organic compound with water under conditions of agitation to form a [mixture] mixed solution of the [finished] organic compound and water having a consistent concentration of water comprising from about 100 ppm to about 50,000 ppm water to produce the color stable organic compound/water mixture [product], wherein the color stable organic compound/water mixture [product] has an APHA color value of 15 or less after being boiled for at least one hour at one atmosphere of pressure.
2. (Currently amended) The process of claim 1 wherein the water and the [finished] organic compound are combined to produce the color stable organic compound/water mixture [product] at a temperature of about 0°C to about 160°C.
3. (Previously presented) The process of claim 2 wherein the conditions of agitation include stirring.
4. (Currently amended) The process of claim 3 wherein the color stable organic compound/water mixture [product] has an APHA color value of 12 or less after being boiled for at least one hour at one atmosphere of pressure.
5. (Currently amended) The process of claim 4 wherein the [finished] organic compound is a C₁ to C₆ carboxylic acid.
6. (Currently amended) The process of claim 5 wherein the [finished] organic compound is butyric acid.

7. (Currently amended) The process of claim 6 wherein the color stable organic compound/water mixture [product] comprises from 100 ppm to about 10,000 ppm water.
8. (Currently amended) The process of claim 7 wherein the water and the [finished] organic compound are combined to produce the color stable organic compound/water mixture product at a temperature of about 20°C to about 50°C.
9. (Currently amended) The process of claim 8 wherein the color stable organic compound/water mixture [product] comprises from 500 ppm to about 1,000 ppm water.

Claims 10-13 (Cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) A process for preparation of a color stable organic compound/water mixture [product], wherein the organic compound is selected from the group consisting of C₁ to C₆ carboxylic acids, ketones having boiling points from 154°C to 170°C, and esters having boiling points from about 168°C to about 250°C, the process comprising:
 - (a) removing a crude product stream comprising the organic compound from a reaction zone in which the organic compound is prepared;
 - (b) introducing the crude product stream into a distillation column having a lower portion and an upper portion wherein the upper portion and the lower portion are maintained at a temperature of about 23°C to about 250°C and at a pressure of about 10.1 kPa to about 202.6 kPa;
 - (c) removing the organic compound as a side-stream from the distillation column to produce a finished organic compound; and

(d) combining the finished organic compound with water under conditions of agitation to form a mixed solution [mixture] of the [finished] organic compound and water having a consistent concentration of water comprising from about 100 ppm to about 50,000 ppm water to produce the color stable organic compound product, wherein the color stable organic compound/water mixture [product] has an APHA color value of 15 or less after being boiled for at least one hour at one atmosphere of pressure.

15. (Currently amended) The process of claim 14 wherein the water and the [finished] organic compound are combined to produce the color stable organic compound/water mixture [product] at a temperature of about 0°C to about 160°C.
16. (Previously presented) The process of claim 15 wherein the conditions of agitation include stirring.
17. (Currently amended) The process of claim 16 wherein the [finished] organic compound is a C₁ to C₆ carboxylic acid.
18. (Currently amended) The process of claim 17 wherein the [finished] organic compound is butyric acid.
19. (Currently amended) The process of claim 18 wherein the water and the butyric acid are combined at a temperature of about 20°C to about 50°C and the color stable organic compound/water mixture [product] comprises from 100 ppm to about 10,000 ppm water.
20. (Currently amended) The process of claim 19 wherein the color stable organic compound/water mixture [product] comprises from 500 ppm to about 1,000 ppm water.